

The March meeting for AYHSC was held on March 5th, 2015 from 5:30-7:00pm at the Whittemore Robbins House.

In Attendance:

Adults: Ivy Laplante, Karen Dillon, Kathy Hirsch, Carlene Newell, Inspector Dave Martin, Rebecca Wolfe, Cindy Bouvier, John Scheft, Maria Gallante, Sophia Morgan, Colleen Leger

Students: Samantha Fleishman, Olivia Sorenson, Sana Mohtadi, Catie Blair and Mina Burton,

Welcome

Introductions - Student Advisors and community members all introduced themselves and their respective roles in our community.

Sticker Shock Update: Sophia Morgan a student from Minuteman Tech High School attended our Coalition meeting with her teacher Maria Gallante. Sophia's work was selected to be used for our Spring Sticker Shock Campaign. The Coalition presented her with an award for her design.

II. Old Business

February meeting minutes: Approve minutes from February. Colleen moved to approve and Carlene seconded all approved minutes from our February meeting.

Student Advisors Agenda Item: Youth Summit Report

Karen Dillon updated the Coalition on the plan for the Youth Summit. There will be the creation of a mandala and she asked the coalition what the question/prompt should be. The Coalition tossed around a few ideas and decided upon "Name one thing you do to stay healthy and away from substance abuse".

Sana Mohtadi reported on the launch of A-SEG, a new social media outreach campaign.

Samantha Fleishman talked about her plan to be the photographer at the youth summit.

III. New Business

Elevator speeches: With an emphasis on learning to share what the Coalition is and what we do, we practiced "elevator speeches," which are short 2 minute statements about the Coalition.

A-TOWN Video Contest: Karen and Ivy will be attending the film festival and conducting outreach from a Coalition table. The MC at the event will mention our desire to have a Public Service Announcement created.

Middlesex Partnership for Youth Event: March 11th in Westford, MA. Chris Herren will be speaking about Opiate Abuse in MA. We are registered to take 10 members. We have sent a broadcast email out through AHS guidance and have three Freshmen interested in attending. We hope to get a few more interested.

Community Reads Event: We are partnering with Robbins library in Arlington to participate in their Community Reads programming. The book they selected has a theme of alcoholism and many other mental health issues. AYHSC will be screening a movie and having a community discussion on March 12th in the Robbins Library. Woody Giessmann from Right Turn will be facilitating the Q & A.

Parent Forum with Michael Thompson at Ottoson on March 23rd. Ivy will be at the event.

Outreach to New Sector Representatives:

The Coalition is currently seeking new sector representatives in the areas of: Religious, Businesses, Healthcare and Parent Representatives.

Some ideas were :

Connect with youth leaders at the Unitarian Church in town

Email parents attending the Guiding Good Choices workshops

Identify and contact religious leaders

Joe Curro mentioned that local banks are regulated and committed to community reinvestment and want to help.

Not Your Average Joe's is a business that gives back a great deal to the town.

YRBS 2015 at Ottoson needs to be planned. Ivy called for a STAT (short term action team) and Colleen Leger, Cindy Bouvier, and Carlene Newell stepped up to form the STAT.

What's happening in Arlington?

Meeting Adjournment

Next Coalition Meeting - April 2nd, 2015 at 5:30pm - Whittemore Robbins House